

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 193335 TOSEC 200014

70

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S:PSEBASTIAN

APPROVED BY:S/S:SEBASTIAN

----- 008215

O 042215Z AUG 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 193335 TOSEC 200014

NODIS

FOL RPT DAMASCUS 5147 ACTION SECSTATE 04 AUG QUOTE

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 5147

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM MURPHY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, SY, UR, LE

SUBJECT: SOVIET ROLE IN LEBANON

1. I PRESENTED AGREED TALKING POINTS ON SOVIET ROLE IN LEBANON (RCI 21302 OF 31 JULY) TO FONMIN KHADDAM AUGUST 3. THROUGHOUT MY PRESENTATION KHADDAM REPEATEDLY NODDED IN VIGOROUS AGREEMENT.

2. SAID I RECOGNIZED THAT IT UNLIKELY HE WOULD HAVE BEEN SURPRISED BY ANY OF THE MATERIAL I HAD REPORTED ON BECAUSE WE KNEW SYRIA WAS WATCHING THE SITUATION CLOSELY. SYRIA IN SOME CASES PROBABLY HAD EVEN MORE DETAILS THAN WE DID, GIVEN ITS MANY OBSERVERS IN LEBANON. HE SHOULD REGARD MY PRESENTATION IN ANY CASE AS A SAMPLE OF OUR OBSERVATIONS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 193335 TOSEC 200014

WE THOUGHT IT OF VALUE TO COMPARE NOTES OCCASIONALLY WITH

ONE ANOTHER ON SUCH SUBJECTS. KHADDAM AGREED EMPHATICALLY AND COMMENTED "YOUR INFORMATION IS EXTREMELY PRECISE."

3. I OBSERVED THAT IN LAST FEW DAYS SOVIETS HAD ALTERED THE TONE OF THEIR PRESS COMMENTARY ABOUT SYRIA IN COURSE OF WELCOMING THE SYRO-PALESTINIAN AGREEMENT. KHADDAM RETORTED THAT "THE SOVIETS WANT A POLITICAL RECONCILIATION PROVIDED WE WITHDRAW FROM LEBANON AND PERMIT JUMBLATT AND HIS ALLIES TO TAKE OVER THE AREAS WHICH SYRIAN FORCES PRESENTLY CONTROL." (HE NOTED IN PASSING THIS CONSTITUTED 60 PERCENT OF LEBANON.) "IN OTHER WORDS," HE CONTINUED, "RECONCILIATION IS TO BE ON THE BASIS OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF OUR FORCES SO THAT THE COMMUNISTS COULD GET HOLD OF THOSE REGIONS." ASKED IF THIS WAS WHAT THE SOVIETS HAD TOLD HIM IN MOSCOW, KHADDAM SAID, NO, THIS WAS A MESSAGE PRESENTED DIRECTLY TO HIM EARLIER ON AUGUST 3 BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR MOUKHITDINOV. HE THEN AFFIRMED THAT SYRIA'S POSITION IS CLEAR AND SYRIA WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP ITS FORCES IN LEBANON UNTIL PEACE WAS RESTORED. IT CONSIDERED ITS PRESENCE ESSENTIAL TO TERMINATE THE PRESENT WAR WHICH WAS AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF THE LEBANESE, PALESTINIAN AND ARAB PEOPLES.
MURPHY
UNQUOTE HABIB

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, TOSEC, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, CAT-C, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE193335
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PSEBASTIAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760006-0127
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760886/aaaacxtf.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET ROLE IN LEBANON
TAGS: PFOR, SY, UR, LE, US, (KHADDAM, ABD AL-HALIM)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006